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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Soviet Troops in the Bittkau-Polte Training Area

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 3 August 1957

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REFERENCES

PAGES 7 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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SOURCE

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1. Residents of Bittkau (M 53/1 83) and Polte stated that the troop camp in that area quartered 1,200 troops on 14 July. In view of the billeting capacity of the camp, which was recently enlarged, source believed that estimate correct. Trucks

2. Thirty camouflaged trucks with pontoons and an undetermined number of troops wearing black-bordered black epaulets without branch-of-service insignia were seen south of the Bittkau-Polte road, about 500 meters northeast of Polte. A dump containing 300 to 400 pontoons, assault boats, pneumatic rafts and other bridge-building equipment was located on the Elbe River bend south of Polte. The dump was guarded by military sentries.

3. Sentries wearing black-bordered red epaulets blocked the Polte-Ringfurth road because of firing practice with live ammunition in that area. Vehicles observed

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Auth.: HR 70-2